order to employ them, if males, in their hardeſt labour, or, if females, either for wives or concubines; and ſometimes the neighbouring villages went to war for quarrels that happened among the children; or for neglecting to invite each other to their entertainments.

Their wars are carried on more by ſtratagem than bravery; for they are ſuch cowards that they will not openly attack any one unleſs forced by neceſſity: this is the more extraordinary, becauſe no people ſeem to deſpiſe life more than they do, ſelf-murther being here very frequent. Their manner of attacking is this: in the night-time they ſteal into the enemy's village, and ſurpriſe them, which may eaſily be done as they keep no watch; thus a ſmall party may deſtroy a large village, as they have nothing more to do than to ſecure the mouth of a hut, and ſuffer no body to come out, which only one can do at a time; therefore whoever firſt attempts to eſcape is knocked down, or obliged to ſubmit to be bound.

The male priſoners which they take, eſpecially if they are men of any conſequence, are treated with all manner of barbarity, ſuch as burning, hewing them to pieces, tearing their entrails out when alive, and hanging them by the feet. This has been the fate of ſeveral *Ruſſian* Coſſacks during the diſturbances of *Kamtſchatka*; and theſe barbarities are exerciſed with great ſhew of triumph and rejoicing.

Theſe private differences among themſelves were very uſeful to the Coſſacks in their conqueſt of the whole nation; for when the natives ſaw the latter attacking one village, ſo far were they from aſſiſting their countrymen, that they rejoiced at their deſtruction, not conſidering that the ſame was to be their fate next.

In their wars with the Coſſacks, they deſtroyed more by ſtratagem than by arms; for when the Coſſacks came to any village

5: Jochelson A-5 (1910-11) 1928 Kamchadal

groups in Kamchatka after being exposed to syphilis, alcoholism, tuberculosis and other consequences of Russian influence, show a marked increase over the former number. But these general observations are not corroborated by statistical figures.

The well-known investigator of Siberia, Patkanoff,[1] has shown that the groups which had adopted a higher system of economical organization (cattle breeding, agriculture, etc.) show a marked increase in population. But these groups do not include the Kamchadal. On the other hand the latest investigators of Kamchatka, the Swedish traveler Bergman[2] and the Russian Gapanovich,[3] attest the same state of affairs as pictured by the author.[1] Only the infusion of fresh blood may save the Kamchadal from extinction. And the Kamchadal are conscious of it. I remember that some Russian adventurers coming from Vladivostok after the Russian-Japanese War were welcomed and adopted by the villagers of the western coast of Kamchatka, and the hunting rights of their territory were extended to them, provided they settle there.

[1] S. A. Patkanoff, *On the Increase of the non-Russian Population in Siberia*, published by the Imper. Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, 1911 (in Russian).

[2] Sten Bergman, *Vulcano, Stäva und Nomaden—Reisen und Erlebnisse im wilden Kamtschatka*, Stuttgart, 1926. Chapter: "Durch sterbende Dörfer längs der Küste des Ochotskischen Meeres," pp. 177–190. German translation from the Swedish.

[3] I. I. Gapanovich, *The Native Population of Kamchatka*, North Asia, Jour. Social Science, Moscow, 1925, No. 5, pp. 40–62 (in Russian).

1. [i.e., a decline in population due to Syphilis, etc. --Analyst]

5: Jochelson A-5 (1910-11) 1928 Kamchadal

this was the only attempt to take Kamchatka by force, and it ended very unhappily for the Japanese.

When the Japanese were marching along the coast to the village Yavino, its inhabitants fled into the mountains, abandoning their houses, belongings, cattle and dogs. The Japanese finding no one in the village, occupied the Russian houses, hoisted a Japanese flag over the chapel and put up a post with a declaration of the annexation of Kamchatka to Japan. Some days later the Japanese returned to Osernaya taking with them all the cattle, horses and dogs from Yavino.

In the meantime a troop of Russian militia under command of Ensign Shaba arrived at the mouth of the Yavino River in a schooner from Bolsheretzk, and another detachment under Lieutenant Sotnikoff reached Yavino by land. Sotnikoff took command of both detachments. The combined Russian forces numbered only 80, and Sotnikoff did not venture an open attack but took refuge in a ruse. He despatched a man to Hundji, who pretended he had been sent by the inhabitants of Yavino to ask for a doctor and victuals. Hundji, a doctor and two interpreters all unarmed left Osernaya for Yavino. Along the way they were attacked from ambush. The interpreters were shot and Hundji and the doctor captured. Later a Russian detachment had a skirmish with a Japanese vanguard in which one Russian was killed and three were wounded. The Japanese doctor dressed their wounds. On the following morning the Japanese shot the cattle and dogs and left Osernaya in their schooners for the south.

This adventure resulted in the killing by the Russians of peaceful Japanese fishermen in many villages on the western coast of Kamchatka. Usually the Kamchadal are well disposed toward the Japanese, who are just in their relations to the former, attending their sick and furnishing them with medicine.

After the Russian-Japanese War many Russian adventurers, mostly discharged soldiers, found their way from Vladivostok to Kamchatka. Some were attracted by reports of rich profits obtained by sable hunting, others by the desire to introduce agriculture in Kamchatka, but they all remained and mixed with the native fishing population, Kamchadal and Russians. Another company of adventurers settled at the mouth of the Osernaya River, forming a new village. At first their condition was deplorable. Fishing was abundant but there was no market for exchange. They had no money, flour, tea and other commodities to which they were accustomed in their native places of European Russia. The women particularly longed for bread, and often said: "We would give up all the fish for one piece of bread, not mentioning our melons, fruits, meat, milk products and sweets." The majority of the immigrants were Ukrainians of southern Russia.

But two years before our arrival there all had changed. Enterprising firms, partly with American money, began to develop fisheries for the export of Kamchatka salmon. A saltery and a cannery were established in Osernaya and the Russian colony there worked during the short summer as laborers. The fishing company furnished them with money, food, clothing, fuel and building material and they were able to withstand the hardships caused by the most inhospitable of

7:Lesseps T-3 (1787-88)1790 Kamchadal

000 Kaſloff to Apatchin*, where we arrived about midnight: the diſtance of Bolcheretſk from this oſtrog is forty-four werſts.

A few moments after our arrival a tempeſtuous wind aroſe, which would greatly have incommoded us, if it had happened during our route. It continued the reſt of the night and all the next day, which we were obliged therefore to ſpend at Apatchin.

Here we received the laſt adieux of the inhabitants of Bolcheretſk. I was ſtruck with their gratitude and attachment to M. Kaſloff, and the regret they expreſſed at leaving him, as well as their concern for me, and the intereſt they took in the ſucceſs of
609 my journey. I was the more pleaſed with their attentions, as I had obſerved while at Bolcheretſk, that the French nation was not

* I had paſſed through this village on my road to Bolcheretſk, and have deſcribed it, page 65.

held

7:Lesseps T-3 (1787-88)1790 Kamchadal

609 held in any high eſteem by them; they had even ſo bad an opinion of us, that it was with difficulty they were brought to believe what had been told them of the politeneſs and cordiality of the crews of the French frigates to the inhabitants of Saint Peter and Saint Paul. In proportion however as they heard their countrymen extol our conduct, their prejudice grew weaker. I endeavoured by my converſation and behaviour to deſtroy it entirely. I dare not flatter myſelf to have ſucceeded; but it appeared to me that a complete change at laſt took place in their ſentiments reſpecting us.

609 The diſadvantageous impreſſion which
114 they had imbibed of the character and genius of our nation, originated in the perfidy and cruelty exhibited in the perſon of the famous Beniowſky in this part of the peninſula. This ſlave called himſelf a Frenchman, and acted like a true Vandal.

His

7:Lesseps T-3 (1787-88)1790 Kamchada'

000 found, and feels an inſtant deſire to repoſe in him all its confidence. The ſight of M. Steinheil imparted to me this delicious ſenſation. There was in his converſation, from the very firſt moment, an irreſiſtible attraction. I felt a ſort of craving to ſee him, to talk with him; it had the effect of a charm, though his French, as I have ſaid, was not the moſt pure, and was pronounced with the German accent. I ſpent the day of 4 February with the baron, and in the evening M. Kaſloff arrived as he had previouſly informed me.

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756
609
797 The oſtrog of Machoure, before the introduction of the ſmall-pox, was one of the moſt conſiderable in the peninſula; but the ravages of this cruel diſeaſe, have reduced the number of inhabitants to twenty families.

All the Kamtſchadales of this village,

7:Lesseps T-3 (1787-88)1790 Kamchadal

177 men and women, are chamans, or believers
756 in the witchcraft of theſe pretended ſorcer-
797 ers. They dread to an exceſs the popes or
609 Ruſſian prieſts, for whom they entertain the moſt inveterate hatred. They do all they can to avoid meeting them. This is ſometimes impoſſible, and in that caſe, when they find them at hand they act the hypocrite, and make their eſcape the firſt opportunity that offers. I attribute this fear to the ardent zeal which theſe prieſts have doubtleſs ſhown for the extirpation of idolatry, and which the Kamtſchadales conſider as perſecution. They accordingly look upon them as their greateſt enemies. Perhaps they have reaſon to believe, that in wiſhing to convert them, the overthrow of their idols was not the only thing theſe miſſionaries had in view. Theſe popes probably ſet them no example of the virtues upon which they declaim. It is ſuſpected that their object is the acquiſiton of wealth, rather

7:Leaseps T-3 (1787-88)1790 Kamchadal

dales in general, for the civility with which
157 they treated me. I have already mentioned
609 their mild and hoſpitable character, but I have not been ſufficiently minute reſpecting the inſtances of regard which theſe good people gave me, and I recall with pleaſure the remembrance of their kind reception. There was not, I believe, an individual chief of any oſtrog, that did not make me ſome trifling preſent. Sometimes it was a ſable or fox ſkin, and ſometimes fruit or fiſh, and ſuch other objects as they conceived would be moſt agreeable to me. One would have ſuppoſed that they had reſolved, by their attentions to me, to repair the injuſtice which they had ſo long committed againſt the French name. They often thanked me for having undeceived them upon the ſubject; and ſometimes again were tempted to regret it, when they conſidered that they ſhould ſee me no more, and that it ſeldom

7:Lesseps T-3 (1787-88)1790 Kamchadal

609 happened that any of my countrymen viſited their peninſula.

We left Karagui at one o'clock in the morning of 2 March. The weather was tolerably calm, and continued ſo during the whole day. The only inconvenience we met with, was the not being able to croſs, as we had hoped to do, a bay which the tempeſt of the preceding evening had cleared of its ice: we were obliged to go round it. This bay has conſiderable depth, is eight or ten werſts wide, and appeared to run in the direction of north-eaſt and ſouth-weſt. The ice was only broken up as far as the mouth, where it became ſolid again, and extended into the ſea. With the circuit which we were obliged to make, we travelled this day about fifty werſts.

Upon the approach of night, we ſtopped in

22: Guillemard T-2 (1882) 1886 Kamchadal

133 between the hills, rises the snowy cone of Koriatska; and the store-
361 house of the Alaska Commercial Company, painted the dull Indian
103 red that is so favourite a shade throughout Sweden, forms a
609 pleasing patch of colour in the foreground. It did not take us long to make acquaintance with Petropaulovsky, in spite of its imposing name. The inhabitants, we found, called it Petropaulsk, and, in short, showed every disposition to make things easy for their visitors. Salmon and bilberries were sent off to us, and, on our remarking upon the presence of cows, a supply of cream and
441 butter was not long in following. Society here is limited, the
643 Europeans being but eight or ten in number. Mr. Lugobil, the
563 local head of the Alaska Commercial Company, resides here, and
712 superintends the shipping of the sealskins from Bering and Copper
R Islands; as does Captain Hunter, the cheery agent of Phillippeus
177 and Company, another firm of fur-traders. Of stores (the American
. 64 term is in use here) there are but two. One of them was owned by a kindly old Swede, who also acted in the capacity of Mayor. He had not visited his native land for thirty years, and it was evidently a source of the keenest pleasure to him to talk of it to one of us who knew it, and loved it almost as much as he did himself. The town is now no longer a military post, and the barracks and fortifications, razed to the ground by the English in 1855, have never been rebuilt. The entire authority is vested in the Ispravnik, whom, in spite of the exigencies of his profession, we did not find averse to the seductions of trade. A Russo-American Jew, better known as the King of Kamschatka, of whom the Russian Government was extremely anxious to get rid, completed, with Dr. Dybowski, the list of Europeans of the sterner sex. The ladies were only four in number.

757 With Dr. Dybowski, who has acquired a European fame as a
115 naturalist, it was a pleasure to make acquaintance. His life had
R been an eventful one. Imprisoned in Siberia for some time for taking
177 part in the Polish insurrection, he had eventually been pardoned
. 75 and made government doctor of Kamschatka, in which capacity he

28: Sarytschew--66-67 T-1 (1789-90) 1806 Kamchadal
116, 222, 262, 609, 825

"On our journey we experienced the most friendly treatment from the Kamtschadales, who not only entertained us with the utmost cordiality, but made us liberal presents of partridges, fresh fish, frozen keta, jukol, berries, and roots, [67] which are collected in great quantities from the mouse-holes, and form one of their principal aliments.

In autumn, they go into the fields in search of these roots, and as soon as they find hollow ground, by stamping, they dig down, and lay open the store-rooms of these animals. They do not, however, empty them entirely, but leave the mice a third at least of their provision, probably with a view of not driving away such useful creatures. They terrify each other, indeed, with the saying, that the mouse which is deprived of all its sustenance, will hang itself in despair on the next tree; a tale which may perhaps have originated in the circumstance of a mouse having been entangled by accident in the branches of a tree, and having hung there till it died."

29:Cochrane T-2 (1821-22)1824 Kamchadal

000 with a file of English newspapers, magazines, &c. which employed me till the 1st of July, when we were ready to sail.

361 St. Peter and St. Paul's, the chief city of the peninsula of Kamtchatka, contains forty-two dwellings, besides fifteen edifices belonging to the government, an old church, and the foundation of a new one. Among the public buildings are to be reckoned magazines for bread, for powder, for tailors, for convicts, for wine, and for arms; a guard-house, smithy, hospital, chancery, school, and a building for the chief and his assistant. All, however, with the exception of the hospital, sailor's barracks, and school, are at best, like the rest of the city, emblems of misery and wretchedness. I have never seen even on the banks of the Frozen Sea so contemptible a place, hardly meriting the name of a village, much less that of a city; yet such is the place which has been so eulogized from one end of the world to the other. The erection of hospitals, of schools, of churches, and the diffusion of happiness, have been extravagantly vaunted of in magazines and reviews, in defiance of the most lamentable facts of a very opposite description.

563 I cannot imagine what a governor has to do in
609 such a place; a civil commissary would surely
631 have been enough. The only people, in my opi-
R nion, who can be called happy, are the Koriaks,
177 because they are independent. The Russians com-
.63 plain of being sent to such a vile place, utterly

563 destitute of society; the Creoles of their being
609 kept in a state of poverty; while the Kamtchat-
631 dales bitterly lament the association with either the
R one or the other. It has been observed that St.
177 Peter and St. Paul's can never be a good town,
.63 owing to its want of wood. It may be asked, why
then was the seat of government removed from a
more eligible place, Nishney Kamtchatsk, or why
was it not removed to the centre of agriculture and
population, so far as either can be said to exist? It
has been already changed three times, and is, I be-
631 lieve, destined to another removal. Kamtchatka
R neither can nor will thrive so long as its chiefs are
177 sent for five years only: such a short period
.63 scarcely allows them the time of doing good, how-
ever well disposed they may be. The general mode
of occupying the allotted term may be thus de-
scribed. The first year is employed in looking
about and forming places for the improvement of
the country, the amelioration of the condition of
the aborigines, &c.: the second year is passed in
making reports, stating opinions, &c.: the third
year brings the reply of the government, direct-
ing or authorizing the mode of administration:
the fourth is employed in preparing or at most in
acting upon such orders: while the fifth and
last year is generally employed in preparing to re-
turn to Europe, and levying a parting contribu-
tion:—and thus the whole five years are, more or
less, taken up in trading and accumulating as much

1: Kolarz J-4 (no date) 1954 RR1 Siberia

Kamchadal R43
Russian Islands R21

KAMCHADALS

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Soviet propaganda has never been very outspoken about the native people of South and Central Kamchatka – the Kamchadals – for a very good reason. Even Soviet historians could hardly claim that friendship between Russians and Kamchadals (or Itelmeny, as they are now called) ever existed in the past. It is a well-established fact that the presence of Russian Cossacks in Kamchatka provoked endless struggles and revolts in the early part of the eighteenth century. While it is true that many Cossacks lost their lives, it is equally undeniable that the first Russian colonizers wiped out the majority of the Kamchatka natives. Only the fact that Kamchatka is rather unsuitable for European colonization saved the Kamchadals from dying out entirely. While their number, which was about 30,000 before the Russian conquest, had dropped to about one-sixth, their relative strength was still fairly important at the end of the nineteenth century. The census of 1897 showed that the Kamchadals then formed over 48 per cent of the population of their homeland. Russian colonization under the Soviet régime changed things rapidly, to the detriment of the Kamchadals. In 1928 they comprised only one-quarter of Kamchatka's population, and in 1939, at the maximum, only 12 per cent.

In absolute figures there were 4,217 Kamchadals in 1926, but only 868 of them were able to speak their national language; the others were, as far as their culture is concerned, completely Russianized. In Petropavlovsk, the capital of Kamchatka, only 69 Kamchadals were counted in the 1926 census.

'ALEUTIAN NATIONAL DISTRICT'

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East of Kamchatka are the Commander Islands, consisting of Behring Island, where the famous explorer, Vitus Behring, died in 1741, and Copper Island (Medny). The two islands now form the 'Aleutian National District', which was set up in 1932. There are not more than 400 Aleutians in the Soviet Union. Practically all of them live in the 'District' which is to impress the 5,800 Aleuts of Alaska.

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Soviet propagandists have always taken great pride in the cultural successes of the 'Aleutian National District'. Its primary claim to fame is the fact that it was the first administrative unit of the Far East which achieved 100 per cent literacy. However, this triumph was not such a remarkable one as it may seem. Two thirds of the Soviet Aleuts were literate as early as 1926 at a time when the other Far Eastern tribes included only between 1 and 10 per cent of literate people. So the Soviet authorities can hardly take credit for an achievement which in all likelihood was